"The 'Greatest Generation' gave everything in defense of the United States. We must ensure that all veterans and their survivors are never forgotten and receive the benefits they were promised."

- U.S. Congressman Jerry Costello



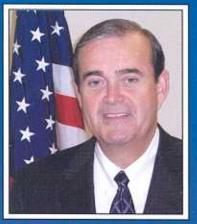
Dear Veteran,

Memorial Day has always been a time to honor the sacrifices of those brave men and women that have served, and are currently serving, in the armed services of this great nation. This year is particularly special, as we dedicate a memorial on the mall in Washington, D.C. to our World War II veterans. The historic contributions of the "Greatest Generation" will now be preserved forever in our nation's capital so future generations never forget how they came to the defense of the United States during some of its darkest days.

We owe these veterans a debt of gratitude and I will continue to work to ensure that all veterans receive the benefits they were promised. If you have any questions or concerns about veterans' benefits or programs, please contact my office or refer to the list of phone numbers on the reverse side.

Sincerely,

Jerry F. Costello Member of Congress



Jerry F. Costello

12th District Illinois Rayburn HOB Washington, D.C. 20515

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"I will continue to fight to see that veterans get the respect they deserve and the quality health care they were promised."

> - Congressman Jerry F. Costello

COSTELLO WORKING TO MAINTAIN SURVIVORS' BENEFITS

Spouses of deceased career military retirees currently receive 55% of the soldier's annual retirement pay until they turn 62, when they begin receiving only 35%. I believe that offset should be eliminated; these benefits have been earned and should continue to be fully received. I have cosponsored legislation, H.R. 548, that would retain the full 55% level and I have signed a discharge petition to bring this bill immediately to the House floor for a vote.

HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR VETERANS

Health benefits	877-222-8387
• Education benefits	888-442-4551
VA Life Insurance	800-669-8477
· Office of Service Member	
Group Life Insurance	800-419-1473
CHAMPVA	800-733-8387
• Gulf War Veterans	800-749-8387
• Status of Headstone claims	
Telecommunication	
Device for Deaf (TDD)	800-697-6947
· Direct Deposit for checks	877-838-2778

OTHER SERVICES

My office is eager to assist veterans in a variety of ways, including:

- Getting the medals you deserve
- · Checking the status of a claim
- Answering eligibility
- Obtaining military documents

If you would like to sign up for an e-newsletter on veterans and other issues, go to my web page: www.house.gov/costello

U.S. Congressman Jerry F. Costello House Representatives Washington, DC M.C.
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